

**Town of Brookline**  
**Surveillance Technology and Military-Type Equipment Study Committee**

Bernard Greene, Chair **Date:** July 30, 2020

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**Committee members present:**

Bernard Greene, Chair  
C. Scott Ananian  
Sal D'Agostino  
Lt. Paul Campbell  
Susan Howards  
Amy Hummel  
Feng Yang (Acting CIO for Brookline, designee for Kevin Stokes)

**Non-committee members present:**

Emiliano Falcon, ACLU

**Committee members absent:**

Sgt. Casey Hatchett  
Igor Muravyov

Committee member Ananian agreed to take minutes.

**Discussion:**

1. Voted to approve minutes from 2020-03-05, 2020-05-14, and 2020-06-11, and 2020-07-16. Corrected title for Feng Yang; typo corrections from Chair Greene.
2. Yang described her concerns with the app security guideline draft.
  - a. Yang's concern is that Public Records Law could cover some of the materials disclosed on this form. There are exceptions to disclosure covering public safety information, but Lt. Campbell points out that these are subject to rulings by courts, and are not ironclad
  - b. Ananian suggests identifying with specificity the items which are of concern, and flagging this in advance for redaction. This helps with any future redaction effort, and allows us to discuss specific issues, and possible remediations if that item were to be disclosed by court ruling under public records law.
  - c. **Action item:** Yang is getting advice from Town Counsel regarding the legal issues relating to Public Records Law; D'Agostino will aid Yang in condensing the Town's existing form and the new proposed form into a single document, and flagging the specific items which might need to be protected for disclosure.
  - d. **Action item:** D'Agostino will also draft a recommendations document for the general public for privacy and security.
  - e. Yang suggests distinguishing larger and smaller systems, so that smaller systems which don't have a lot of privacy-sensitive information can be done quicker. D'Agostino suggests an initial risk-assessment process. Ananian

remarks that the risk profile may change over time: small systems grow larger; large systems almost never seem to grow smaller.

- f. Chair Greene: please footnote that we've covering the police public safety app with these policies and recommendations as well (or write a paragraph to this effect). Ananian will forward to D'Agostino his document from last year w/ public safety app concerns.
    - g. Chair Greene suggests a preliminary draft relatively quickly to present at a public hearing.
3. Discussion of the draft on security-vs-privacy
  - a. Hummel suggests adding an example from schools; D'Agostino agreed, will send draft to Ananian for review.
  - b. Greene suggests a hearing for this aspect relatively quickly.
4. Discussion about posting drafts
  - a. Ananian will forward to Yang for posting the draft documents associated with present and previous meetings, clearly watermarked as drafts and works in process.
5. Discussion about the draft on military-type equipment
  - a. D'Agostino discusses command-and-control as worth discussion, both in Town operations, and in terms of any combined operations
  - b. Ananian suggested more nuanced language than "The Town has no stocks of military equipment." (in chair Greene's redlined version). Greene suggests a phrase was elided, "acquired under the 1033 program". Ananian suggested that explicitly acknowledging dual use and police versions of military equipment is better for transparency. Acknowledge that to a civilian there is a lot of equipment that looks military. Ananian suggests not letting off the hook equipment that was not acquired via 1033: 1033 and UASI acquisitions are free or subsidized by grants, the non-grant equipment was paid for entirely with Town funds and we should be equally diligent about ensuring Town funds are not spent on inappropriate equipment or inappropriate quantities.
6. Discussion of surveillance technologies
  - a. Hummel encouraged us to address surveillance in a significant way, has been neglected recently with focus on other parts of the draft report
  - b. D'Agostino mentioned that an earlier draft of the security-vs-privacy document had a mention of surveillance. Public use of surveillance technology, for example drones.
  - c. Ananian recalled he had reviewed drone policy for the DPW drone at an earlier point. **Action item:** dig up these materials again for discussion at future committee meeting.
  - d. Hummel: we are still waiting for an inventory with purpose of cameras used by police department (not CIMS cameras). How many cameras do we have? Hummel got the total count on the Town side from Charlie Simmons (240 at that point) but couldn't get the corresponding # from the BPD side.

- e. **Action item:** Howards: circulate CIMS inventory and policy and procedures.  
<https://www.brooklinepolice.com/167/CIMS-Cameras>  
<https://www.brooklinepolice.com/DocumentCenter/View/973/Final-Report-Camera-Oversight-Committee>
  - f. Ananian suggests a four part document on camera recommendations: 1. CIMS cameras (Howards), 2. Town cameras (Hummel / Charlie Simmons), 3. Police cameras (Lt. Campbell), 4. Private cameras owned by the general public (D'Agostino). D'Agostino suggests also adding policy for police use of private cameras owned by the general public, and perhaps also a recommendation document for general public on best practices in use of private cameras.
7. Discussion of face recognition document
- a. Hummel: Warrant Article 25 was approved by Attorney General's office
  - b. There is still state action; Chair Greene suggests there be a brief mention of this in the document, a placeholder for discussion as any final action is made by the state. **Action item:** Ananian will suggest a sentence summarizing the interaction of state and local action which he will send Hummel.
  - c. BG suggests that this document is almost ready for a hearing
8. Discussion of the interaction of this committee with the Committees on Police Reform and on Reimagining Policing in Brookline

**Follow up items (in addition to items assigned above):**

- 1. Next meeting will be Thursday Aug 27 at 10:30am.
- 2. Public hearing Wed Sep 16 at 7:00pm on the following four draft sections:
  - a. Privacy-vs-security
  - b. Military-type equipment
  - c. Facial recognition
  - d. Computer security and privacy principles